

E & R amendments adopted, two amendments offered that did not prevail. The next motion I have is by Senator Chambers.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, if you can look among the paper on your desk, you will find this third...this amendment number three, and on page 2, lines 23 through 24, I would strike the words, "under any statute or ordinance shall not", those words. And I would insert, "for the crime of theft by shoplifting as provided in Section 28-511.01 shall". And it would read in this manner: A conviction for the crime of theft by shoplifting as provided in Section so and so shall be a condition precedent to maintaining an action under this section. What this amendment does is say that before an action which...and when the term "action" is used in this bill it's talking about the lawsuit that can be filed against the parents of the child accused of shoplifting, before an action of that kind can be brought there has to be a conviction for the crime of shoplifting. And I know we went through some of this this morning, but I have to persevere and continue the struggle because this is a very, very bad bill. And it's as bad this evening at 5:22 p.m. as it was this morning when it was being discussed. And I have no choice other than to take this bill point by point to discuss these aspects of it so that if votes are taken, it will be clear from the record that the Legislature knew what was in each one of these provisions and voted with full knowledge of what was being voted on. So the current law, or the current language in the proposed statute says that you need not have a conviction before bringing one of these lawsuits. My amendment says that you must have a conviction and that unless there is one there cannot be the lawsuit. And to bring you up to where we are, if any of you are interested, or interested or not I am going to do it, the purpose of this bill is to allow careless merchants to create a system whereby they and...or collection agencies will make some money together. And the victims will be these children and their parents. But a step can be taken toward cutting down the victimization by requiring a conviction for shoplifting before the lawsuit can be filed. And I think this is a valid amendment. I think it ought to be adopted. This bill was not drafted by Senator Pirsch nor Senator Ashford. It was drafted by the merchants. And just like 775, they put all kinds of bric-a-brac in it, not expecting to get it all. But since it went to that notorious Judiciary Committee, they got all of this stuff left in the bill. Judiciary Committee can be one of the worst committees on